

Minutes for a meeting of the Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee of the Waikato District Council held in the Council Chambers, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawaahia on **WEDNESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2023** commencing at **9.31am**.

Present:

Cr L Thomson (Chairperson)
Her Worship the Mayor, Mrs JA Church [from 10.06am]
Cr C Beavis [until 10.47am and from 11.07am]
Cr C Eyre
Cr J Gibb
Cr M Keir
Cr P Matatahi-Poutapu
Cr K Ngataki [from 9.46am]
Cr E Patterson
Cr V Reeve
Cr P Thomson
Cr T Turner

Attending:

Mr G Ion (Chief Executive)
Mr W Gauntlett (Acting General Manager Community Growth)
Mr T Whittaker (Chief Operating Officer)
Ms J Dolan (Economic and Community Development Manager)
Mr D Sharma (Acting Waters Manager)
Mr R Turner (Recovery Manager)
Ms R Goddard (Climate Action & Sustainability Manager)
Mrs LM Wainwright (Democracy Advisor)

Guests

Mr G Millington (Orini Reserve Committee)
Mr A Grainger (Pokeno Community Events Committee)
Ms D van den Bemd (Te Akau Waingaro Community Complex)
Ms F Carrick (Te Waka)
Ms N Greenwood, (Chief Executive, Hamilton & Waikato Tourism)

The meeting opened with a Karakia.

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved: (Crs Gibb/ Matatahi-Poutapu)

That the Sustainability & Wellbeing Committee:

- a. accepts the apologies from Cr Raumati and Cr D Whyte for non-attendance; and
- b. accepts the apologies for lateness from Her Worship the Mayor, JA Church and Cr K Ngataki.

CARRIED

S&W2311/01

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

Resolved: (Crs Patterson/P Thomson)

THAT:

- a. the agenda for a meeting of the Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee held on Wednesday, 1 November 2023 be confirmed;
- b. all items therein be considered in open meeting, and
- c. all reports be received.

CARRIED

S&W2311/02

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved: (Crs Keir/Reeve)

THAT:

- a. the minutes for a meeting of the **Sustainability & Wellbeing Committee** held on **Wednesday, 20 September 2023** be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting, subject to the editing of **Resolution No. S&W2309/04 (c) (Local Area Blueprint Update)** from:

“consider whether to include the additional initiatives proposed by Tamahere Community Committee, as provided for in Attachment 3, as an addendum to the existing Tamahere Local Area Blueprint.”

to read:

“include the additional initiatives proposed by Tamahere Community Committee, as provided for in Attachment 3, as an addendum to the existing Tamahere Local Area Blueprint.”

CARRIED

S&W2311/03

ACTIONS REGISTER

Agenda Item 5

The report was received [*S&W2311/02 refers*] and discussion was held on the following matters:

Strategic Heritage Report

ACTION: This item to be closed and removed from the schedule.

Hauraki Gulf Forum

ACTION: This item to be closed and removed from the schedule.

Programme

ACTION: This item to be moved into the “Local Area Blueprint Update” item for discussion at the workshop. The item to then be closed and removed from the schedule.

Local Area Blueprint Update

- Rural ideas to be included in some community plans. These would be discussed in the workshop being scheduled to assist councillors in understanding how community plans vs aspirations were integrated into the Blueprint process.

ACTION: The Tauwhare Community plan be placed on the website under Community Plans. The plan would supercede the 2017 Tauwhare Community Plan.

Maaori Sites and Areas of Significance Project Fund Report

ACTION: This item to remain on the schedule.

REPORTS

Summary of Movement in Discretionary Fund Report to 18 October 2023

Agenda Item 6.1

The report was received [*S&W2311/02 refers*] and no discussion was held.

Application to the Rural Ward Fund

Agenda Item 6.2

The report was received [*S&W2311/02 refers*] and the Economic and Community Development Manager introduced the applicants to the committee. The following items were discussed:

Orini Reserve Committee

Mr Millington outlined the application and noted that:

- The Christmas event would be held on Friday, 1 December 2023. There would be food trucks, a live band and Santa would be flown in by helicopter.
- Farmers had been advised to move stock before the event as there would be a fireworks display.

Resolved: (Crs Gibb/Patterson)

THAT the Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee:

- a. **approves an allocation of \$2,419.00 (excl. GST) from the Rural Ward Fund account to:**
 - i. **Orini Reserve Committee for its annual Christmas Party at the Orini Reserve on Friday 1 December 2023 on the Local Reserve.**

CARRIED

S&W2311/04

Pokeno Community Events Committee

Mr Grainger outlined the application and noted that:

- The Christmas parade would be held away from Pokeno's Main Street as construction work was occurring.
- Food and coffee trucks would be available on the day.

Resolved: (Crs Reeve/Gibb)

THAT the Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee:

- a. approves an allocation of \$2,586.50 (excl. GST) from the Rural Ward Fund account to:**
 - i. Pokeno Community Events Committee for the Traffic Management Plan required for the Pokeno Christmas Parade on 8 December 2023.**

CARRIED

S&W2311/05

Te Akau Waingaro Community Complex

Ms van den Bemd outlined the application and noted that:

- The Christmas fete had attracted approximately 150 people last year.
- Local and external businesses had been approached for support for this year's fete.
- Every child would have their photo taken with Santa and receive a gift.
- The local school was involved in the fundraiser.
- A social committee had been formed.
- A bouncy castle had been hired and was currently certified for use.

Resolved: (Crs Eyre/Keir)

THAT the Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee:

- a. approves an allocation of \$1,500.00 (excl. GST) from the Rural Ward Fund account to:**
 - i. Te Akau Waingaro Community Complex for a band as part of its Community Christmas Fete on Wednesday the 29 November 2023.**

CARRIED

S&W2311/06

Cr Ngataki entered the meeting at 9.46am during discussions on the above item and was present when voting took place.

Te Waka Update and Future Projects Presentation Agenda Item 6.3

The report was received [*S&W2311/02 refers*] and the Te Waka representative spoke to the report. The following items were discussed:

- Te Waka had been focused over the last six (6) months on how the region, as a whole, could sustain growth long term.
- Constant focus was on investment attraction for the region. Within the last year, \$11.5M had been secured from the Kanoa Regional Strategic Partnership Fund.
- Regional Partnership Investments included the Emerging Supplier Forum, Agribusiness Seminar 2023 and techweek2023.
- Te Waka had attracted funding to direct projects that supported economic growth and regional development.
- The Regional Strategic Partnership Fund had started approximately four (4) years ago and had attracted funding of \$17.4M. The fund was a co-funding model, meaning businesses, industry or iwi groups had to be functioning with an outcome of delivery to communities, economically, environmentally or industry.
- Kanoa had advised that the Waikato Region had done well ensuring that the money was aligned with regional priorities.
- Focus was the primary sector, all forms of agriculture, renewable energy and technology.
- Regular communications were made across all ten (10) councils, industry and iwi.
- Information on Te Waka, Waikato Economic Development could be found on the website <https://www.waikato.com>.
- Te Waka nationally supports the Field Days event.

Her Worship the Mayor, Mrs JA Church, entered the meeting at 10.06am during discussions on the above item.

Hamilton & Waikato Tourism – Year End Update | July 2022 to 30 June 2023

Agenda Item 6.4

The report was received [*S&W2311/02 refers*] and the Chief Executive, Hamilton & Waikato Tourism spoke to the report. The following items were discussed:

- From July 2022 to June 2023, domestic tourism had injected \$751.6M into the region and \$105.5M from international tourism.
- Tourism would continue to grow as the borders were not fully opened between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2023.
- Westpac bank projections showed that international tourism would exceed what New Zealand had in 2019.
- The Destination Management Plan (DMP) for the Waikato identifies a pathway towards a shared vision by, and for, local communities, iwi, visitors, tourism industry, wider business, and local and central government agencies. Information on these plans could be viewed on <https://www.waikatoz.com/industry/destination-management-plan>.
- Hamilton & Waikato Tourism and Te Waka collaborate monthly.
- The Mighty Local campaign had worked well but would not be continued due to resourcing as funding from central government was no longer available.
- Development of a Heritage Trail through the Waikato district.

ACTION: Cr Beavis to follow up with the Chief Executive, Hamilton & Waikato Tourism on the possible development of a heritage trail.

Three Waters Reform Better Off Funding Special Project Update November 2023

Agenda Item 6.5

The report was received [*S&W2311/02 refers*] and the Acting Waters Manager spoke to the report. The following items were discussed:

- The project had just entered the delivery phase and Council was waiting for approximately 15 applicants to return signed agreements. Once the agreements had been received, the projects would be entered into the EPMO framework.
- A project by project report would be supplied to the Committee in the next quarter.
- The Acting Waters Manager had met with 15 of the 19 applicants.
- Safety camera projects. Concern was raised on the delay in funding the project. The CCTV project was funded internally so back-to-back funding was not required to commence the project. Discussions were currently being held between Waikato District Council and Hamilton City Council.
- One point of contact was necessary when questions were asked.

- Assessment of applications, by complexity, had been carried out by the Assessment Panel. During the delivery phase, the EPMO Project Manager manages the complexity of risks as part of their project management framework. Council's risk profile was dictated by DIA. Community funding was supported by Council but applicants would be responsible for any risk. Council therefore does not have any reputational risk associated with the projects.
- The Communications & Engagement Strategy was discussed. Currently, communications sat with the Project Manager. The EPMO had been directed to ensure that Councillors and the Executive Leadership Team be copied into any outgoing communications on the projects.
- Council would not be responsible for any over runs and this had been inserted into the contract document.

ACTION: The Acting Waters Manager to advise Councillors who the point of contact was for the Better Off Funding Project.

Resolved: (Her Worship the Mayor/Cr Keir)

THAT the Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee:

- a. notes that the project management for the three waters reform better off funding is ongoing; and
- b. notes that the reporting frequency to the Committee is quarterly.

CARRIED

S&W2311/07

The meeting adjourned at 10.47am and resumed at 11.04am.

Recovery Plan – Cyclone Gabrielle
Agenda Item 6.6

The report was received [S&W2311/02 refers] and the Recovery Manager spoke to the report. The following items were discussed:

- Council had received additional funding to help fund resilience work.
- The number of stickered homes in Port Waikato had been reduced.
- MPI were now working in the business as usual space. Concern was raised on residents that did not fit into any of the funding categories.
- The 2.35M funding would support Port Waikato stormwater networks, silt and debris in overland flow paths.

Cr Beavis re-entered the meeting at 11.07am during discussion on the above item.

Economic and Community Led Development Work Programme

Agenda Item 6.7

The report was received [S&W2311/02 refers] and the Economic and Community Development Manager spoke to the report. The following items were discussed:

- Ms Thurlow would be supporting Community Boards and Committees in the community led space. This change would be effective from Monday, 6 November 2023.
- A large number of Community Committees existed and were not supported by Council. Training on governance and committee work would be given to these committees in partnership with Council's Democracy Team, if required.

ACTION: Staff to provide councillors with a list of members sitting on the steering groups for Community Boards and Committees.

Climate Response and Resilience Strategy

Agenda Item 6.8

The report was received [S&W2311/02 refers] and the Climate Action & Sustainability Manager spoke to the report. The following items were discussed:

- A survey had been conducted with other Territorial Authorities last year, on whether they had action or sustainability plans in place. 85% advised that they had them or would be developing them in the near future.
- The Climate Response and Resilience Strategy had been developed. This strategy set out timelines, objections, directions and targets for our internal and district operations.

Resolved: (Crs Patterson/Turner)

THAT the Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee:

- a. adopts the Climate Response and Resilience Strategy.**

CARRIED

S&W2311/08

Climate Action Progress Update November 2023

Agenda Item 6.9

The report was received [S&W2311/02 refers] and the Climate Action & Sustainability Manager spoke to the report. No discussion was held.

Resolved: (Crs Turner/Patterson)

THAT the Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee:

- a. receives the **Climate Action Progress Update for November 2023.**

CARRIED

S&W2311/09

The Sustainability and Wellbeing Committee closed the meeting with a Karakia.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 11.25am.

Minutes approved and confirmed this day of 2023.

Cr L Thomson
CHAIRPERSON